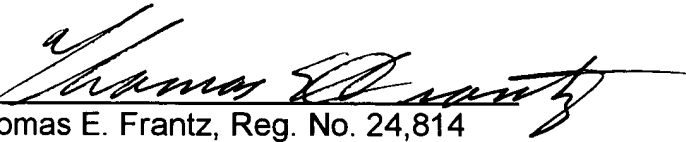


application became damaged or torn through rough handling or other mishap during transit, the Declaration should have been found with the balance of the application papers upon being opened at the USPTO. Accordingly, it appears that after the package was opened at the USPTO, the Declaration may have become detached from and not reassembled with the rest of the documents.

Further, attention is called to the attached copy of the acknowledgment card (Exhibit B) forwarded with the application in question and subsequently returned by the USPTO. This card clearly and specifically sets out inclusion of a Declaration as part of the application package but lacks any notice, mark or other indication on the card that the Declaration was missing at the time the application was received at the USPTO.

Respectfully submitted

TERI A. HUFFMAN-JIMENEZ

BY 
Thomas E. Frantz, Reg. No. 24,814

Phone: 319-372-1890

Fax: 319-372-8231

Date: March 16, 2004